#### **PATENT**

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the divisional application of  Michael Y. Zhang et al.	Examiner of Parent Application:  S. McDowell
For: BALLOON FORMING PROCESS	Group Art Unit: 1732
Serial No.: Unassigned	) Customer No.: 23,422
Filed: November 20, 2001	PRELIMINARY  AMENDMENT
Docket No.: 9600.6831	) )

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents U. S. Patent and Trademark Office 2900 Crystal Drive Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the above identified application as follows:

#### IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-25 and claim 27 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 26 and 28 - 32 to read as follows:

- (Amended) A polymeric medical balloon having a [reduced] radial 26. shrinkage less than 10% [and reduced axial growth].
- (Amended) The polymeric balloon of claim [27] 26 wherein the radial 28. shrinkage is less than about 6%.

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- 29. (Amended) The <u>polymeric</u> balloon of claim [28] <u>26</u> wherein the radial shrinkage is less than about 6%.
- 30. (Amended) The <u>polymeric</u> balloon of claim 26 wherein the axial growth is less than about 10%.
- 31. (Amended) The <u>polymeric</u> balloon of claim [29] <u>26</u> wherein the axial growth is less than about 6%.
- 32. (Amended) The <u>polymeric</u> balloon of claim 26 wherein the axial growth is less than about 10%.

# Please add the following new claims:

- 33. The polymeric balloon of claim 26 wherein the balloon is formed at least in part of a polyurethane.
- 34. (New) The polymeric balloon of claim 26 having a length of about 0.8 to about 8 cm.
- 35. (New) The polymeric balloon of claim 26 having a length of about 1.5 to about 3 cm.
- 36. (New) The polymeric balloon of claim 26 having an uninflated wall thickness of about 0.1 to about 0.4 mm.
- 37. (New) The polymeric balloon of claim 26 having an uninflated wall thickness of about 0.2 mm.

### <u>REMARKS</u>

IApplicants have filed concurrently herewith a Submission of Formal Drawings.

The applicants believe that the pending claims are directed to patentable subject

matter. Consideration on the merits and an early allowance thereof are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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